

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 10 are pending, with Claims 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10 being independent.

Claims 1 through 10 have been amended.

REQUEST FOR RETURN OF FORMS PTO-1449

Applicants respectfully note that the entry for the article cited in the January 22, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement Form PTO-1449 was not initialed, and Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner initial the same to confirm consideration.

Also, Applicants respectfully request return of the Form PTO-1449 from the January 11, 2005 Corrected Information Disclosure Statement.

FURTHER REMARKS

Claims 1 through 10 were variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103 over US 2003/0012409 A1 (Overton, et al.), taken alone or in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,319,747 (Gerrissen, et al.). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10 variously recite, *inter alia*, that the virtual image elimination area allows the user to observe the corresponding area of the real image which is located ***behind*** the virtual image and which normally cannot be observed by the user due to the virtual image being superimposed on the area.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Overton, et al. nor Gerrissen, et al., even in the proposed combinations, assuming, *arguendo*, that they could be combined, discloses or suggests at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10.

In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that Overton, et al. shows, e.g., inserting an image in a target area 504, detecting an occlusion due to an object, e.g., the portion of hockey player 404 in target area 504, the attend use of occlusion image 400c (Fig. 9), and thus a portion of the virtual image occluded with an object located *in front of* the virtual image is masked (Fig. 10, etc.). Applicants respectfully submit that such provides neither a description nor a suggestion of at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10, including the recitation of the real image located *behind* the virtual image.

Applicants further respectfully submit that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited documents that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the above-discussed claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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